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## ABSTRACT

This book reevaluates the role of the British University Grants Committee (UGC) and its effectiveness from 1919 to 1989. The UGC was the machinery for funding British universities and played a key role in shaping the British university system. The book proceeds on a thematic rather than chronological format. Chapter 1 considers the relationships between UGC and its two principals, the Government and the universities, between 1919 and 1989. Chapter 2 describes the failure to build a satisfactory relationship with the Research Councils. Chapter 3 reviews the way the UGC influenced the academic development of the university system. Chapter 4, 5, and 6 deal with key areas of UGC interest, the founding of the New Universities of the 1960s, the relationship between the private and public funding of universities, and the weaknesses of the UGC machinery that were exposed by the Cardiff Affair. Chapter 7 gives an account of the replacement of the UGC by the Universities Funding council. Chapter 8 reflects on the importance of the UGC to the British universities and the strength and weaknesses of its approach to the management of the university system. Includes an index. Contains 215 references. (JB)

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